

Egremont Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Planning Committee

January 5, 2020, 3:00 pm

Zoom Meeting

In Attendance: Will Brinker, Will Conklin (Greenagers), Ed McCormick (TEEM), Emily Eyre (EGC), Pat Konecky (EGC), Dave Rejeski, Chet Delaney (COA), George McGurn

Recording: Juliette Haas

- 1) Meeting called to order at 3:03 pm
- 2) Juliette Haas described the purpose of the MVP Planning Committee and its future goals of creating an integrated Egremont Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) and Climate Action Plan (CAP) as part of the state's MVP program to seek future funding for hazard mitigation related to climate change.
- 3) Those in attendance introduced themselves to the group and offered ways in which they hoped to assist with the goals of the committee.
- 4) The next round for applications to the program will open in April. By that time the MVP committee will need to know who will serve on the future MVP Planning Committee and who Egremont's chosen MVP Certified Provider will be. Members of the MVP Planning Committee should reflect all populations of the town: seniors, youth, vulnerable and underserved populations, business, as well as members of additional town boards and committees (ie: BOH, Planning, Highway, Planning, etc.). These members will be responsible to actively participate in the committee functions and requirements of monthly information gathering meetings and community outreach meetings. As to MVP Certified Provider, the towns of Great Barrington and Monterey used Berkshire Regional Planning Commission. The town of New Marlborough and Sheffield used BSC Group. The town of Becket used Dodson and Finker. Ed McCormick suggested we reach out to these towns to share their experiences and get first hand references for their MVP providers.
- 5) Will Brinker supplied the committee with a copy of the town's current HMP. Pat Konecky distributed the link to the MVP website. Juliette distributed information on upcoming MVP webinars.
- 6) Discussion during the meeting:
 - Q: What is possible funding down the road if Egremont applies for MVP Action funding?
 - A: Possibly \$100,000 - \$200,000 depending on available state funds and scope of Egremont projects
 - Q: Does the program allow for matching funds?
 - A: Yes. MEMA and DOER funding as well as other funding sources could be applied to mitigation efforts.
 - Q: What's the timeline of the planning grant and action grant process?
 - A: Believed that the planning grant may be completed and approved by MEMA in 12 months. It may be an additional year to receive action grant funding.
 - Dave Rejeski suggested we research other town's applications available on the program website to look for innovative ideas for mitigation efforts. He suggested the Greenagers youth team might want to perform this work as a research project.
- 7) Action points for next meeting:
 - Juliette will reach out to neighboring communities who took part in the program and seek references for MVP Certified Providers
 - Have additional names of Egremont residents willing to serve of MVP Planning Committee
 - Start the interview process of MVP Certified Providers
- 8) Meeting adjourned at 4:46 pm. Next meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 2, 2020 at 2 pm.

JSHAas
Approved 2/2/2021